



Seed Kit Instructions

First Seed Kit?

Set up your garden using the *Quick Start Guide*, then proceed to Step 1.

Already grown a seed kit or two?

Follow the "Restarting Your AeroGarden" instructions on Page 6, then proceed to Step 1.

Let's Plant Your AeroGarden *Just 3 Easy Steps!*

Step 1 Add Water

- Add cool tap water or distilled water to the bowl to the 'Fill to Here' indicator. Do not use well water or softened water which may result in non-germination and/or poor growth.
- If growing in an ULTRA, press 'Quick Start' and follow on-screen instructions, then skip to the "Top Tips for Great Growth" section on Page 3.

Step 2 Plant Your Seed Kit

AeroGarden Grow Pods are designed to fit in any AeroGarden model. Slight pressure may be required to insert pods fully in the side openings of some models.

- If your garden has a 'Plant Select' feature, set it to the correct plant type.
- Plants grow best and look best if tall plants are in the back row, medium plants along the sides, and short plants are in front. Seed pod labels often identify plant height to assist with placement of pods.
- Seed kits for large plants such as tomatoes and peppers often include fewer than 7 pods to compensate for the large plant size. For best growth, place two seed pods on opposite sides in the back and one in the front center.
- Do not remove labels from seed pods. The labels identify the plant type and plant height, show the germination time, and inhibit algae growth.

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- Place grow domes over the seed pods. Leave the domes on the pods until plants nearly touch the domes, then remove.

Step 3 Feed Your Garden

All seed kits now come with our new improved liquid nutrients. Instructions for use of these nutrients may be found on the nutrient package. Shake liquid nutrients well before adding.

- Add nutrients to your garden at start-up, and when the 'Add Nutrient' reminder activates (every two weeks).
- Add only the amount recommended on the nutrient packaging. Do not overfeed!
- Always top off water level when adding nutrients and when the 'Add Water' reminder activates. For best results, top off the water level in your garden regularly.

Congratulations! You're on your way to a beautiful garden. For best results, please read "Top Tips for Great Growth" on Page 3.

Nutrient and Water Reminders

On most models, 'Add Water' automatically activates when 'Add Nutrient' activates as a reminder to top off water level when adding nutrients. Following 'Nutrient Reminder' instructions will turn off both reminders.

Nutrient reminders vary by model. To reset timer:

- ULTRA: Follow on-screen instructions to reset.
- AeroGarden 3: Press and hold 'Lights' button until 'Add Nutrients' light blinks, then release. Now quickly press and release 'Lights' button once again to turn off the blinking light and reset the nutrient timer for the next two-week reminder.
- All other AeroGardens: Quickly press and release the 'Reset' button to turn off the blinking light and reset the timer for the next two week reminder. (Note: Do not press and hold the 'Reset' button or press at any other time).

Tending & Harvesting Tips

With just a little care, your garden will grow rapidly and offer bountiful harvests. Keeping a watchful eye on your garden is not only a joy, but also a smart way to make sure your plants stay healthy.

Top Tips for Great Growth

- Set your Lamp Hood to the lowest position when starting a new seed kit.
- Always keep your grow lights as close to your plants as possible, taking care to trim back the tallest plants so they do not actually touch the grow lights.
- Replace your Grow Lights every 6 months for maximum growth and harvests.
- Be brave enough to prune. Pruning promotes greater health, larger harvests, and more beautiful plants. Always try to prune/harvest just above a new leaf set as seen in diagram A.
- Plants will grow into each other's space and block light. To keep all plants in your garden healthy, trim back the leaves from the sides of the plants as seen in diagram B.
- The AeroGarden has a low water level indicator, but we encourage you to check the water level frequently and keep the bowl full.
- AeroGarden plants love a fresh water bath! For extra care, you may empty the water out of your bowl at every other feeding time (once monthly) and refill with fresh cool water and then add nutrients. This is called a "rinse and refill."
- If mixing different types of seed kits together in one garden, remember to prune faster growing plants from the top so that the grow lights remain at the lowest position until all plants are well-established (usually about 4 - 5 weeks).

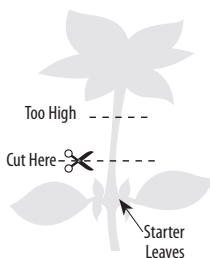


Diagram A

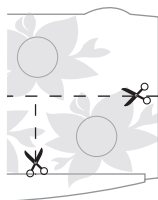


Diagram B

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- Tomatoes should not be mixed with other plants as they spread out substantially as they grow. Other smaller plants will not get enough light and nutrient to grow well with tomatoes.
- Little bugs can find their way to your garden by riding in on clothing, on other plants or produce, or through an open window or door. If you find some unwanted guests, spray your plants with water to wash them off. Make sure you spray **UNDER** the leaves as bugs usually reside there. For more persistent pests, an insecticidal soap may be used.
- As your plants grow, you may see some dead or brown leaves, especially at the lower part of the plant. This is perfectly normal. Remove these leaves with scissors or pinch them off with your fingers.
- Harvest frequently to maintain a healthy garden, but take no more than one third of any plant at a time.
- After harvesting, lower your grow lights if necessary. Remember that plants should be 1" – 2" below the grow lights.

Tips for Herbs

- Basil is usually the first seed to sprout and it grows rapidly. Harvest basil (and any other fast-growing herbs) to keep them an inch or two below the lights, and avoid raising the lights until all other plants are well-established, usually about 4 - 5 weeks. Use the trimmings in soups, salads, sandwiches, etc.
- Chives, thyme, and oregano grow slowly and often get shaded by faster growing plants. Create space for these plants, and for any other slow growers, by pruning surrounding plants frequently.

Tips for Flowers

- When flowers are 2" (5cm) tall, check each seed pod for multiple plants. Using scissors or shears, gently snip the smallest plants at the base of the stem, leaving no more than 3 plants in each pod.
- Wilted or dead flowers should be removed often for continued flower production.

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- Many flowers are slow to germinate, and some grow slowly once sprouted. Allow up to 3 weeks for seeds to sprout, and remember to keep the grow light low until all plants are well-established. You will be rewarded with beautiful blossoms!

Tips for Tomatoes & Peppers

- Visit the “Tomatoes and Peppers” section on www.aerogardensupport.com for more tips and videos.
- When plants are about 2” (5cm) tall, check each seed pod for multiple plants. Using scissors or shears, gently snip the smallest plants at the base of the stem, leaving ONE healthy plant in each pod.
- Start pollinating your plants regularly once they begin to flower. With the grow lights on, GENTLY shake your plants from side to side. This will spread the pollen to all the flowers on your plant. You may also pollinate by placing a fan in front of the garden, or by touching the branches of the plant with an electric toothbrush.
- Your plants should begin to produce fruit in about 6 – 8 weeks. Remember to pollinate your plants when flowers appear by gently shaking the plants.
- Heavy fruit can cause your vegetable plants to topple over – support them with wooden skewers or chopsticks, or try the AeroGarden Trellis System or Easy-Up Plant Supports.
- In order to keep plants 1” – 2” below the grow lights, it may be necessary to prune the top of the plant. Don’t worry if you need to trim some blossoms from the plant; it will produce more flowers after pruning.
- Plants that are slow to produce fruit may benefit from a “rinse and refill.” Empty the water from the bowl and refill with fresh, cool water and fresh nutrients.

Tips for Salads

- Salads prefer cool temperatures below 75 degrees. When growing salads, take care to keep your garden away from sunny windows that might increase the temperature.
 - To harvest, remove whole leaves by cutting the base of the leaf with scissors or shears, or by gently pinching off with your fingers. Spread your harvest evenly across your garden.
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Restarting Your AeroGarden

Follow these 3 steps before replanting for best garden growth:

Step 1 Sanitize Your Garden

After each planting, you should clean and sanitize your AeroGarden to reduce the risk of root pathogens that can destroy your crop. Here's how:

- Fill the Bowl $\frac{3}{4}$ full with water and add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of chlorine bleach.
- Let the water pump or aerator circulate the bleach solution for five minutes.
- Empty the bleach solution from the bowl, rinse well, and then fill $\frac{3}{4}$ full of clear water (no bleach).
- Plug the AeroGarden back in and let the pump circulate/aerate for 5 minutes.
- Empty and rinse once more to ensure that all bleach is rinsed from bowl.

OR without bleach

- Add 5 cups each of distilled white vinegar and fresh tap water to the bowl and follow the instructions above.

Step 2 Reset Your Nutrient Timer

It is important to restart the nutrient timer before planting a new seed kit.

Resetting AeroGarden ULTRA Models

- Just follow on-screen instructions during 'QuickPlant.'

Resetting 3-Pod AeroGarden Models

- Press and hold 'Lights' button until 'Add Nutrient' light begins to blink, then release.
- Quickly press and release 'Lights' button once again.

Resetting All Other AeroGarden Models

- Press and release 'Reset' button.

Step 3 Set Your Lamp Hood to the Lowest Position

- This is very important for best growth!

Planting Date:

Notes:

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AeroGrow has a searchable online resource section. For more detailed information about growing in your AeroGarden, please visit:
www.aerogardensupport.com.

1-800-476-9669

customerservice@AeroGrow.com

facebook

We also have an active Facebook Community who love to answer questions at
facebook.com/aerogarden.

“Like” us for special offers and community fun!

AeroGarden SEED KIT LIMITED WARRANTY

WHAT IS COVERED: This warranty covers defects in materials, workmanship, and germination of seeds for one year from date of purchase. AeroGrow may replace a non-germinating Seed Pod with another Seed Pod of its choosing. Call AeroGrow customer service at 1-800-476-9669 within 3 weeks of planting the seed kit for replacement of a non-germinating pod. **WHAT IS NOT COVERED:** This warranty shall not apply to problems arising from: growing in a system other than an AeroGarden, germination of seeds not provided by AeroGrow, failure to adhere to Seed Kit Instructions and/or Quick Start Guide, improper use, maintenance or storage of Seed Kit, or use of materials not provided by or recommended by AeroGrow in or on the plants grown. This warranty excludes all incidental or consequential damages. You may have other legal rights that vary from state to state.

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